c) second coding means for outputting M bits data by coding the second digital information signal, the M representing an integer other than the N;

d) converting means for converting the N bits data output by said first coding means, into M bits data and

e) adding means for adding an error correction code to the M-bit data,

said adding means receiving selectively the M-bit data from said second coding means or the M-bit data from said converting means and performing a common addition processing irrespective of the M-bit data from the second coding means and the M-bit data from said converting means. --.

-- 23. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the first digital information signal is a digital signal representing to a brightness component composing a video signal, and the second digital information signal is a digital signal representing a color component composing the video signal. --.

-- 24. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the first coding means codes the signal to be coded by differential pulse code modulation. --.

-- 25. An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the second coding means codes the signal to be coded by differential pulse code modulation. --.

--   26.   An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the
first digital information signal is a television signal in which
a video signal and an audio signal are time-division
multiplexed. --.

--   27.   An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the
adding means adds a predetermined amount of error correction
code for every predetermined amount of M-bit data. --.

--   28.   An apparatus according to claim 22, further
comprising recording means for recording the M-bit data
processed by the adding means. --.

--   29.   An apparatus according to claim 22, further
comprising generating means for generating other data, where the
first digital information signal has a lower bit rate than the
second digital information signal and the adding means adds the
error correction code to the M-bit data from the converting
means, added with the other data generated by the generating
means, when the error correction code is added to the M-bit data
from the converting means. --.

--   30.   A digital information signal coding method,
comprising:

        a)   input step of selectively inputting a first
digital information signal or a second digital information
~~signal~~

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